

- Asclepias rubra* L.—Dry hills, East Marion, rare; determined by Dr. John K. Small.
- Cuscuta polygonorum* Engelm.—Sandy swamp at Mattituck; determined at the Bureau of Plant Industry as *Cuscuta obtusiflora* HBK.
- Lamium maculatum* L.—Fields at Cutchogue; collected by Mrs. Fay.
- Marrubium vulgare* L.—Dry waste places, Laurel; determined by Dr. Small.
- Mentha longifolia* (L.) Huds.—Roadsides, Southold; collected by Mrs. Fay.
- Thymus Serpyllum* L.—Dry hills, Fisher's Island; determined by Dr. Small.
- Ilysanthes inaequalis* (Walt.) Pennell—Sandy shore of a pond at Laurel; determined by Mr. Ferguson. (*Ilysanthes anagallidea* (Mx.) Robins.)
- Plantago decipiens* Barneoud—Salt marshes, Shelter Island; collected by Dr. House, No. 9692.
- P. elongata* Pursh—Dr. Graves in Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 23: 59. Feb. 1896 says, "In 1892 *Plantago elongata* Pursh (*P. pusilla* Nutt.) was detected growing on the south side of Fisher's Island."
- Jasione montana* L.—All around the borders of one field, at Laurel, covering an acre; and evidently is spreading.
- Aster concolor* L.—Sandy ground at Bay View.
- A. ericoides* L., var. *villosus* T. & G.—Dry woods, Laurel; determined by Mr. Ferguson.
- A. nemoralis* Ait.—Sandy swamp at Laurel, rare; determined by Mr. Ferguson.
- A. paniculatus* Lam.—Salt marshes, Shelter Island; collected by Dr. House, No. 9686.
- Centaurea vochinensis* Bernh.—Greenport and Bay View; collected by Mrs. Fay and determined by Mr. Ferguson.
- Solidago Michauxii* House—"Cutchogue, Latham" (*Solidago minor* (Mx.) Fernald).
- S. serotina* Ait., var. *gigantea* (Ait.) Gray—Sandy swamp, Mattituck; determined by Mr. —————.

BOOK REVIEWS

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN NATURAL HISTORY*

This volume is the first of three which, when completed, will constitute the most important contribution ever made to the history of natural science in the United States. The entire work is strictly bibliographic, and consequently intended solely as a work of reference, but it supplies the key needed to unlock

* MEISEL, MAX. A bibliography of American natural history: the pioneer century, 1769-1865. Volume I. An annotated bibliography of . . . the history, biography and bibliography . . . published up to 1924; . . . and a bibliography of biographies. 244 pages. Premier Publishing Co., 626 [now 658] Broadway, Brooklyn, N. Y., [November 1924.] Price (cloth), \$5.00, postpaid.

the stores of historical material relating to the early years of American biologic and geologic science. It deals only with the period termed by the author the "pioneer century," from the formation of the American Philosophical Society in 1769 to the close of the Civil War in 1865. This period is of course the most important one for treatment in this way, and the present publication supplies a solid foundation upon which to build similar work relating to the progress of American natural history in later years.

The importance of this undertaking can perhaps not be stated any more clearly than by these words from the preface defining its scope: "During this century the pioneers . . . laid the foundations for the great achievements in American natural history with which we are so familiar today. . . . The Bibliography aims to record the natural history contents of the publications of nearly ninety societies; of twenty-five journals; of thirty-six state geological and natural history surveys; of fifteen natural history museums and botanic gardens; and of over seventy federal exploring expeditions and surveys."

Mr. Meisel, who has been engaged in this undertaking for nearly ten years, has done his work thoroughly and presented his results clearly. The preface to this first volume outlines the scope of all three, and the table of contents includes the second and third volumes. The author assures me that there is reasonable hope that the two remaining volumes will appear with no serious delay. Their appearance, however, is in part contingent upon the sale of the first volume, and libraries that need a work of this kind should lose no time in securing this volume, thus encouraging the publication of the remainder.

The present volume is wholly historical and biographical. Seventy-three pages are devoted to an annotated list of the publications relating to the history, biography, and bibliography of early American natural history and its institutions which have been published up to 1924; thirty-seven pages to a subject index and fifteen pages to a geographic index to the annotated list; and eighty-nine pages to a selected list of biographies and bibliographies of the principal early American naturalists.

It is needless to say that it is impossible, in a work of this character, to avoid occasional clerical or typographical errors, but in the present instance these are remarkably few. It could

accomplish no good result to enumerate here the imperfections that have come to the notice of the reviewer. And omissions seems to be as scarce as errors.

JOHN HENDLEY BARNHART.

WINTER BOTANY, WILLIAM TRELEASE*

This little book is a companion volume to the author's *Plant Materials of Decorative Gardening* which gives keys for determining trees and shrubs in their summer condition. The present volume gives keys based on twig, bud and leaf-scar characters by means of which practically all of the trees and shrubs, native or cultivated, can be determined in the winter. The key refers to 328 genera and 1100 species and varieties, considerably more than are given in *Plant Materials*, though the evergreens described in that volume are omitted in the present book. With all genera containing more than one species keys are given to the species or varieties.

Necessarily the characters used to separate species are often comparative and so difficult to use where only one form is being traced out. For example it will be difficult to decide whether a twig is "distinctly glandular-warty" or "nearly smooth," or again whether a twig is "moderately slender" or "very slender." In such cases it may be impossible to decide which species one has, but nine times out of ten there should be no trouble. With each genus is a series of drawings showing clearly the determining characters, with the aid of these drawings the user may feel certain of his identification of the genus and often of the species. The characters of the genera are described briefly, but no descriptions of the species are given. This omission is necessary in a book of pocket size that attempts to give so many species.

After each genus, or sometimes after the last genus of a family, page references for each species are given to a number of texts. In some cases these references occupy as much as two pages. As the books referred to are listed in the back these references to species might have been omitted with considerable saving of space. For example, page references are given for every species of

* WILLIAM TRELEASE, *Winter Botany*. Second Edition, Revised, Published by the author, Urbana, Ill. Pages xlii + 396. 1925.